

RECEIVED

GROUP 3600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3621

Examiner: P. E. Elisca

In re Application of

Isao ECHIZEN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/659,551

Filed: September 11, 2000

CONTENTS RENDERING CONTROL METHOD, CONTENTS REPRODUCING

EQUIPMENT, AND CONTENTS DISTRIBUTION EQUIPMENT

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

For:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated January 27, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Since the three-month due date fell on Sunday April 27, 2003, the period for response to that Action runs through April 28, 2003.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-24.

Please add new claims 25-44 as follows:

(New) A method for controlled filtering of contents data in reproducing or 25.

distributing,

wherein control information specifying predetermined filtering has been embedded in the

ontents data as a digital watermark;

said method comprising the steps of: